

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/PRS:PPERENYI:MG

APPROVED BY S/PRS: ROBERT L. FUNSETH

S/S - FVORTIZ

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING, THURSDAY, AUGUST 21.

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS (FUNSETH)

NO. 3

1. FUNSETH READ STATEMENT ANNOUNCING LIFTING OF U.S. RESTRICTIONS ON THIRD COUNTRY TRADE WITH CUBA AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS ANSWERED QUESTIONS ON BACKGROUND.

2. U.S. AND SOVIET TABLING DRAFT EMOD TREATY WAS ALSO ANNOUNCED. RE PRECISE SCOPE OF PROHIBITIONS IN TREATY, FUNSETH STRESSED THAT INTENT WAS TO PREVENT CATASTROPHIC EFFECTS AND HOSTILE ACTION.

3. FUNSETH SAID THAT CONTINUING CONTACTS WITH NEW BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTE RECOGNITION WITHOUT NECESSITY OF FURTHER ACTION. HE CONFIRMED THAT U.S. AID WOULD CONTINUE.

4. STATEMENT ON CUBA RESTRICTIONS WAS SOMETHING OF AN ANTI-CLIMAX, AS EARLY EDITION OF WASHINGTON STAR HAD ALREADY APPEARED WITH BANNER HEADLINE O'LEARY ARTICLE ON SUBJECT. IT READ IN PART, 'U.S. TODAY IS EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE LIFTING OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA THAT FOR MORE THAN A
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DECADE HAVE PREVENTED AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS OPERATING

OVERSEAS FROM SELLING GOODS TO CUBANS.

THE CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY, EXPECTED TO BE MADE PUBLIC
BY WILLIAM D. ROGERS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS WOULD:

-- FREE U.S. MANUFACTURING COMPANIES WITH OVERSEAS
SUBSIDIARIES TO BEGIN UNRESTRICTED SALES TO HAVANA REGIME
FROM THEIR FOREIGN-BASED PLANTS.

-- ELIMINATE A PROVISION THAT HAS PREVENTED MERCHANT
SHIPS OF ANY FLAG FROM REFUELING IN THE U.S. IF THEY HAVE
VISITED CUBA.

-- REMOVE THE RESTRICTION OF SENDING U.S. PUBLIC LAW 480
FOOD SHIPMENTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES WHICH ENGAGE
IN TRADE WITH CUBA ...

THE DECISION, WHICH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAID WAS
APPROVED BY SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND
PRESIDENT FORD BEFORE KISSINGER'S DEPARTURE FOR THE
MIDDLE EAST LAST NIGHT, REPRESENTS A MAJOR CHANGE IN U.S.
POLICY TOWARD CUBA. SINCE 1964 THE UNITED STATES
HAS ATTEMPTED TO ISOLATE CUBA FROM DIPLOMATIC
AND TRADE RELATIONS WITH NON-COMMUNIST NATIONS." MAW

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